Message

From: Dave Hargett [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]
Sent: 9/13/2020 3:39:08 PM
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Subject: Recommended: Potential Supplemental Sampling Sites Upstream of Lake Conestee - Sources of Legacy Contamination

Jason / Robert
As we discussed a few weeks ago, when you did your first phase of SI work at Lake Conestee, and in anticipation of your next phase of sampling activities, I'm providing files that may be helpful in identifying possible upstream sources of legacy contaminants in the Reedy River and Lake Conestee.
Your team does this work every day, so you know where to look, and I have great respect for your capabilities and experience.
Still, I've been studying the Reedy for 25+ years, to include multiple studies (some for SCDHEC, some for SRWC, some for other units of government) canvassing the entire Reedy from headwaters to Lake Greenwood, for contamination issues, and sites where corrective actions were warranted. In that process I've compiled a lot of Greenville's chemical/industrial history, and I'm still turning over stones. It is the story of every 'hometown river' in America, where many of our industrial fingerprints are hidden in the mud, but have a long and consequential life cycle. No news there.
In the case of the Reedy and the chemical fingerprints of history, key considerations:
1) confluences of tributaries w/ significant industrial/municipal sources of CoCs upstream.
2) known sites with real data, e.g. RCRA, CERCLIS, NPDES, VCC, known violation sites, etc., although in many cases we have lots of surface water and groundwater data, and sediments have often been under-assessed.
3) areas where significant deposition of CoCs occur under highwater events, e.g. floodplain wetlands and 'slackwater' deposits.
I have compiled far too many images and documents that may help lead you to some of the key points of entry to the Reedy, and key locations where significant deposition of residuals likely have occurred, and continue to accumulate.
4) As you have seen with many contaminated sediment sites across the state, the stream sediments themselves may not always reflect the residual COCs as much as the adjacent floodplains, simply because of the physical sedimentology of those environments.... the streams being more energetic and having coarser textures, less organic matter, and fewer fines. The highwater depositional environments in the floodplain sloughs, cutoff channels, and the like have the texture and organic matter and the anoxic conditions to hold many of the suites of CoCs that are of concern. As these floodplains change with erosion over time, those materials continue to migrate downstream. These backwater areas, function just like the old reservoir of Lake Conestee, capturing the fines and the associated contaminants that adhere to them. As an example, abandoned river channels, backwater sloughs, wetlands, old stream channels abandoned due to channelization (e.g. Brushy Creek, and the Reedy above downtown), offer an abundance of history.

5) with contaminated sediments, as we are dealing with in the LC site, there are likely lots of the category 3) situation all along the Reedy, especially in the abundant undeveloped wetland floodplains south of I-85 (ReWa and CF/LCNP properties), and north of River St, and all the way up to Renfrew.
6) given the nature of the contaminant suites manifested within the sediments of the Lake Conestee reservoir, all CoCs are not equal. Some are PBTs, some are highly toxic and carcinogenic, others innocuous. And with this old industrial history, many, probably the majority of the source entities were long-defunct, even before the regulatory era evolved over the past 50 years. Still there are sources that I believe will progressively present themselves as the still viable sources of some of the most toxic compounds that drive our human and ecological risks. As I stated before, your team knows where to look.
You should be receiving notice of access to several Dropbox Folders that provide:

- Annotated Imagery
- Bramlette Docs
- Other Imagery
- Other Refs
- RR-Floodplain Overlays

Some of these files may be helpful. Others not so much.
Get what you can from the information..... it is endless, and coupled with the published history of our industry help to build a more complete story. Please recognize that this is a very incomplete dossier of relevant information.
Regardless, the files may help you see some of the patterns that express the Reedy's chemical history, as manifested downstream.
Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.
Please do confirm that you have received this message, and that you have access to the five folders listed above.
Very best healthy regards,
Dave

Dave Hargett, Ph.D.
Founder & Executive Director
Conestee Foundation / Lake Conestee Nature Preserve

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

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Conestee Foundation: a 501(c)(3) Conservation Organization - Established 2000
Owner & Steward of Lake Conestee Nature Preserve
LCNP: Celebrating 14 Years of Discovery !
An Important Bird Area of Global Significance
Upstate Partner with Audubon - South Carolina
Lake Conestee: A National Register of Historic Places Site
http://conesteepreserve.org
https://www.facebook.com/LakeConestee